



NEWS RELEASE

IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

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Release 2006-48

Water Board to Hold Aquifer Management Plan Public Meetings

For Immediate Release
Boise, Idaho – October 5, 2006

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The Idaho Water Resource Board has scheduled public meetings in October to solicit public input for developing an Eastern Snake River Plain Aquifer (ESPA) Comprehensive Aquifer Management Plan 'Framework' for the 2007 Legislature.

The meetings will be held:

- Pocatello: **Wednesday, October 11, 2006** - 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.; Highland Senior High School Auditorium (1800 Bench Road, Pocatello 83201)
- Twin Falls: **Wednesday, October 18, 2006** – 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.; KMVT Community Room (1100 Blue Lakes Boulevard North, Twin Falls 83301)
- Idaho Falls: **Thursday, October 19, 2006** – 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.; Civic Center Auditorium (501 S. Holmes Avenue, Idaho Falls 83401)

In August, The Board hired CDR Associates to facilitate the development of the Framework. CDR Associates, in conjunction with the Board, will host the public meetings to introduce and discuss the ESPA Framework process. The ESPA Framework process includes:

1. Identifying goals for management of the Eastern Snake River Plain aquifer;
2. Determining the level of management needed in order to adjust water demand and legally and administratively available water supply;
3. Identifying funding mechanisms to pay for implementation of management alternatives, including a fee structure; and
4. Identifying interim measures.

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The purpose of the aquifer-wide public meetings is to: 1) introduce the Framework process and facilitation team, 2) describe roles and decision making, 3) discuss themes heard during initial interviews with stakeholders, and 4) solicit public input. It is anticipated that a second round of public meetings will be held later in the year.

To learn more about the process, visit the ESPA Plan website: www.espaplan.idaho.gov

Meeting Format (identical for each location):

6:30 p.m.	Doors open
7:00 p.m.	Introduction by Board Representative
7:15 p.m.	Facilitation team presentation
7:45 p.m.	Comments from the public and facilitated discussion
9:00 p.m.	Meeting ends

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